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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| First Named Inventor: | Rie TAKAHASHI, et al. | § | |
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| Conf. No.: | Not yet assigned. | § | Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned. |
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| Appln. No.: | Not yet assigned. | § | Examiner: Not yet assigned. |
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| | | § | (A3088MT-US1) |
| Title: | OPTICAL DISC DRIVE | | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The enclosed reference is cited and discussed at page 2 of the specification.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

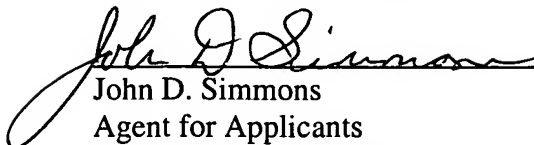
No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Rie TAKAHASHI, et al.

December 12, 2003
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Enclosures

